

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

SUMMARY MINUTES OF MEETING

May 16, 1974

The Immunization Practices Advisory Committee met in Atlanta, Georgia, May 16, 1974.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. H. Bruce Dull, Executive Secretary (Acting Chairman)
Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Connor
Dr. Lonnie S. Burnett
Dr. William R. Elsea
Dr. Alexander D. Langmuir
Dr. Gilbert M. Schiff
Dr. Eleanor G. Shore

Ex Officio

Dr. Harry Meyer, Bureau of Biologics, FDA, DHEW

Liaison (American Academy of Pediatrics)

Dr. Samuel Katz

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. David J. Sencer, Chairman
Dr. E. Charlton Prather

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Frank Ennis, Bureau of Biologics, FDA, DHEW
Dr. Morris Schaeffer, Bureau of Biologics, FDA, DHEW

PUBLIC OBSERVER (Open Session)

Dr. Richard J. Labowskie, Merck, Sharp, and Dohme Research Laboratories

STAFF PRESENT

Bureau of Epidemiology:

Dr. Philip Brachman
Dr. Lawrence Corey
Dr. Michael Gregg
Dr. Michael Hattwick
Dr. Robert Rubin

Bureau of Laboratories:

Dr. Marion Coleman
Dr. Walter Dowdle
Dr. Gary Noble

Bureau of Smallpox Eradication:

Dr. J. Michael Lane

Bureau of State Services:

Dr. J. Lyle Conrad

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by the Executive Secretary acting for the Committee's regular Chairman, Dr. David J. Sencer, Director, Center for Disease Control, who was unable to be present. Two new members to the Committee were introduced:

Dr. William Elsea
City Commissioner of Health
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dr. Lonnie S. Burnett
Professor, Department of Gynecology
and Obstetrics
Johns Hopkins University School of
Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland

The Acting Chairman introduced Dr. Labowskie, public observer, and generally described the day's agenda. He commented on the open and closed segments of the meeting, explaining that late morning and afternoon sessions would be closed to the public in that unpublished results from the testing and evaluation of individual producers' products would be involved and that much of the discussion would relate to data with commercial or financial implications.

OPEN SESSION

Influenza

As is traditional at its spring meeting in preparation for developing a public health recommendation on influenza vaccine for the coming year, the ACIP discussed influenza in detail. In 1973-74, extensive type B influenza was observed in the United States, particularly during the months of January-March. Most surveillance indices demonstrated the predominance of cases in younger age groups with school absenteeism and school-closings being common indicators of the extent of local outbreaks. No discernible excess mortality was associated with type B outbreaks.

Type A influenza occurred in limited portions of the eastern United States in February and March resulting in transiently elevated pneumonia-influenza mortality in the Middle Atlantic Region. This was reflected in national mortality increases to the "epidemic threshold" during the same time period.

Influenza virus B strains were reported to show minor variation from prototype-related types B/Hong Kong/5/72 and B/Victoria/98926/70, but generally to be related to them. Influenza virus A strains showed a minor drift away from the A/England/42/72(H3N2) when strains studied from January to April were compared. Clear antigenic relationships were, however, retained.

Reyes Syndrome

From December 1973 to April 1974, cases of Reyes syndrome were reported in the United States in temporal and geographic association with influenza outbreaks. Reyes syndrome is an acute childhood encephalopathy with fatty degeneration of the viscera and was first described in 1963. It is a rare condition which has been associated in time with a number of viral infections, although most commonly with influenza virus particularly type B. During the 1973-74 winter, somewhat more than 30 cases were reported in the United States, partly as a result of enhanced awareness of the condition and an emphasis on its surveillance.

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Influenza Vaccine

Dr. Ennis presented data on a 1973-74 comparative trial of potential reactogenicity of influenza vaccines among children and adult vaccinees. The evaluation was not only of the proportion of vaccinees developing specific antibody but also the antibody titer and the associated frequency of vaccine reactions including local and systemic phenomena. The proportion of vaccinees responding to immunization was generally found to be greater than 80 percent, although the proportion with four-fold rises in antibody titer was considerably lower. Mean antibody titers were generally considered to be in a low but in a probably-protective range. Associated vaccine reactions were generally minor but were detectable upon question and examination in up to 40 percent of vaccinees, both children and adults.

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Dr. Noble described preliminary data from an investigation of live attenuated influenza vaccine used in young adults. Seroconversion rates were approximately 70 percent following two doses of vaccine. Evaluation is continuing.

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Meningococcal Vaccine Licensure

Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine, group C was licensed on April 2, 1974, for use limited to the military in the United States and under demonstrated epidemic conditions in other countries where serogroup C disease predominates.

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Vaccine Associated Reactions: Legislation in Scandinavia; Debate in U.K.

The Acting Chairman briefly advised the group that six countries now have specific legislative authority to compensate or otherwise support individuals who have been significantly injured as a result of receiving recommended vaccines. Denmark, in 1972, became the most recent country to enact such a legislation. Parliamentary debate in Great Britain in early 1974 raised the same issue.

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CLOSED SESSION

The Committee reviewed with Dr. Morris Schaeffer and Dr. Harry Miller the progress of the Bureau of Biologics' panels reviewing the safety, efficacy, and labeling of bacterial, viral, and rickettsial vaccines.

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It is expected that the panels' work and reports will be completed the next two years. ing

The Committee prepared a preliminary draft of recommendations for influenza vaccine in the United States in 1974-75. It noted in particular the availability of a more potent bivalent influenza vaccine containing at least 1200 CCA units of antigen, namely, 700 CCA units of A/Port Ch 1/73(H3N2) and 500 CCA units of B/Hong Kong/5/72. ers/

It is expected that the Committee's final recommendation on influenza vaccine will be completed by middle June 1974.

The Committee recommended that at subsequent fall and winter meetings, rubella, polio, and pertussis vaccines, rabies immune globulin (human), diphtheria toxoid, and the immunization of hospital workers and for travelers be considered. The Committee tentatively selected October 7-18, 1974, for its fall session.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m., May 16, 1974.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing summary of minutes is accurate and complete.



Acting Chairman

May 24, 1974
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